

# Building Life Castles – Vocabulary

## A

**Anoint** – To put oil on someone, showing that the person is chosen for a special purpose (p. 101)

**Apostle** – A “sent one;” a witness of the resurrection of Jesus; can refer to Christ’s original twelve apostles (p. 56)

**Ascension** – The event in which Jesus lifted up or ascended from Earth to heaven (p. 60)

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## B

**The Beatitudes** – Eight “blessings” that begin Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount (p. 80)

**Beelzebub / Beelzebul** – A name used in Scripture to refer to Satan or another demon (p. 36)

**Blasphemy** – Insulting God or something sacred; saying something untrue about God (p. 52)

**Bless** – To give someone special favor or grace; to wish happiness or success (p. 72)

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## C

**Caesar** – The ruler of the Roman Empire, which included the land of Israel in Jesus’ time (p. 14)

**Christ / Messiah** – A person chosen for a special role; the promised Savior Jesus (p. 10)

**Commission** – A task or job given to a person; the “Great Commission” is Jesus’ command to make disciples for Him (p. 27)

**Compassion** – A gentle, loving desire to help someone who is suffering (p. 32)

**Condemn** – To declare that someone is guilty and deserves punishment (p. 48)

**Confess** – To admit wrongdoing; to reveal what you believe (p. 72)

**Confidence** – firm, complete trust; absolute assurance (p. 84)

**Conform** – To become like someone or something (p. 80)

**Contrite** – Regretful; remorseful; filled with guilt (p. 101)

**Conversion** – Accepting or joining a new faith; the moment someone turns from sin to faith in Christ (p. 125)

**The Council / Sanhedrin** – A group of Jewish leaders who made legal and religious decisions for the people (p. 52)

**Courage** – Doing the right thing even when you are afraid (p. 93)

**Crucifixion** – A method of execution; killing someone by attaching them to an upright piece of wood and leaving them to die (p. 52)

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## D

**Deacon** – Someone appointed by a church to serve in some way; means “servant” (p. 121)

**Debtors** – People who owe something, often money (p. 84)

**Deity** – A divine character, nature, or being; the one God (p. 5)

**Demon** – A spiritual being that follows Satan and opposes God (p. 36)

**Devil** – Another name for Satan; means “liar” or “deceiver” (p. 23)

**Discern** – To see the differences between one thing and another; to know good from evil (p. 117)

**Disciple** – A student or follower who learns from a teacher (p. 27)

## E

**Easter** – The Sunday each year that Christians celebrate the resurrection of Jesus (p. 56)

**Envy** – To want what others have or hate them for having it; similar to *covet* (p. 105)

**Epistle** – A letter; one of the 21 letters in the New Testament (p. 129)

**Eternity** – The world beyond time where our spirit will live forever (p. 84)

**Exile** – To drive out someone from their home country; to banish or separate (p. 10)

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## F

**Faith** – A belief and trust in something we cannot prove (p. 27)

**The Flesh** – The part of us that wants to sin; our mortal weakness (p. 68)

**Foolishness** – Refusing to learn; using knowledge poorly; the opposite of wisdom (p. 117)

**Forgive** – To not hold people's wrongs or failures against them; to give up revenge (p. 113)

**The Fruit of the Spirit** – The attributes or character that the Holy Spirit nurtures in us (p. 68)

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## G

**Gentile** – A term for people who are not Jewish (p. 125)

**God's Grace** – The goodness that God shares with us; His love, care, or blessing (p. 5)

**God's Power** – God's ability to control all things and do everything He chooses (p. 36)

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## H

**Hallowed** – Set apart as special, sacred, holy (p. 84)

**Humility** – An understanding of your limits; willingness to serve through lowly work (p. 101)

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**Hypocrisy** – Pretending to be more righteous than you are, often to condemn others (p. 72)

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## I

**Idol** – A statue or image worshiped as a god; anything valued above the true God (p. 141)

**Immortal** – Alive forever; never dying; not mortal (p. 48)

**Inspiration** – The way God worked through human writers to record Scripture; "God-breathed" (p. 10)

**Intercede** – To act as a go-between for two people; to plead on behalf of someone (p. 65)

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## J

**Justify** – To declare that someone is innocent; to defend something as right (p. 48)

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## L

**Leprosy** – In Scripture, a term to describe diseases that could result in sores, loss of feeling, and deformities; used to be incurable (p. 36)

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## M

**Magi** – The wise men who traveled from the East to honor Jesus (p. 14)

**Manger** – A place to put food for animals; a feeding trough (p. 14)

**Martyr** – Someone killed for their religious beliefs (p. 121)

**Messiah / Christ** – A person chosen for a special role; the promised Savior Jesus (p. 10)

**Miracle** – A divinely-caused event that breaks the laws of nature (p. 32)

**Missionary** – A person sent on a mission, often to share the gospel and love of Jesus (p. 129)

**Mourn** – To feel deep, long-lasting sadness over something (p. 80)

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## O

**Obey** – To choose to do what someone else tells you to do; to comply (p. 105)

**Omniscience** – Knowing everything; “all-knowledge” with perfect wisdom (p. 76)

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## P

**Pagan** – Relating to a religion that worships many gods or even nature itself (p. 117)

**Parable** – A story that pictures or illustrates a lesson (p. 44)

**Passover** – A Jewish holiday celebrating the day Israelites escaped slavery in Egypt (p. 14)

**Patience** – The ability to bear troubles over time; perseverance for the sake of a goal (p. 109)

**Peacemaker** – A person who ends conflict in a lasting way (p. 80)

**Pentecost** – The “fiftieth day” after Easter; when the Spirit first arrived to bless the Church (p. 60)

**Perish** – To be ended or destroyed; to die (p. 48)

**Persecute** – To continually oppress or mistreat people, often for their religion or ethnicity (p. 27)

**Pharisees** – A Jewish religious group that added their own rules to God’s law (p. 36)

**Pre-exist** – To exist or live before another (p. 14)

**Pride** – An overly high opinion of yourself and your abilities (p. 101)

**Prophecy** – A message of truth from God; often about events in the future (p. 10)

**Prophet** – A chosen messenger of God who preached God’s truth; sometimes given power to do miracles (p. 40)

**Provision** – Something stored up to meet a need; what God gives us to show His care (p. 97)

## R

**Rabbi** – A Jewish teacher or scholar, often on Old Testament Law; sometimes appears as “Master” (p. 5)

**Regenerate** – To give new life; to transform into something new (p. 65)

**Resurrect** – To bring back to life; to make alive after death (p. 56)

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## S

**Sabbath** – A day of the week set aside from work; reserved for rest and worship (p. 40)

**Salvation** – Saving someone from harm; in Scripture, God rescuing us from sin to Himself (p. 48)

**Sanhedrin / The Council** – A group of Jewish leaders who made legal and religious decisions for the people (p. 52)

**Satan** – An evil being opposed to God and those who follow Him; means “adversary” (p. 23)

**The Sermon on the Mount** – The longest message from Jesus recorded in the Gospels (p. 80)

**Sin** – Turning away from God; to break God’s Law (p. 23)

**Soil** – Ground; a mixture of earth; often the kind used for planting crops (p. 44)

**The Son of God** – A title for Jesus meaning that He has the same nature or being as God (p. 5)

**Sower** – A person who “sows”—who throws or plants seeds into soil (p. 44)

**Spiritual Fruit** – Outer evidence of a godly heart; actions changed by following Jesus (p. 27)

**Submit** – To serve someone or follow leadership; to put your wants under another’s (p. 105)

**Synagogue** – A gathering place for Jews to learn and worship (p. 14)

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## **T**

**Temptation** – An influence or desire that draws us toward sin (p. 23)

**Testament** – A promise or covenant; the name for the two major divisions of books in the Bible (p. 10)

**Trinity** – The three persons—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—mysteriously unified as one God (p. 5)

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## **U**

**Unity** – The state of being one, whole, and at peace (p. 5)

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## **W**

**Wisdom** – Insight and understanding; the ability to use knowledge well (p. 117)